



Inside this issue:

"Sing to the Lord"
This Week at Living Word
Stewardship/Celebrations
Living Word News
Mission of the Month
10-22-2023 Message Outline
Council Meeting Notes
Back Page

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Eleanor Galik
for immediate prayers



Living in the Word...that the
Word may live in others.

Living Word Lutheran Church

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri 9 am - 2 pm

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:15 am Adult study

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 32, Issue 43

October 22, 2023

"Sing to the Lord"

Psalm 96:1 Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

The psalm begins not with a suggestion, but a command to sing to the Lord. To worship Him in song. Singing engages both the intellect and the emotions in worship. Singing in worship is not just for Sunday mornings. You can sing with your mind and you can sing in the Spirit on many different occasions. Notice who is commanded to sing, it's all the earth. As we'll see this includes all nations and all of creation. Everything created is commanded to sing to the Lord in worship. As we worship, our eyes begin to be opened to the greatness of God and we can ...

Tell of His salvation daily

1 Psalm 96:2 Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. This psalm is
2 written to believers. It is only a believer that can tell someone else about God's salvation. You've
2 experienced it and you can explain to someone else how they can experience salvation. Tell oth-
3 ers about salvation should be a daily part of our lives, just like getting up in the morning and go-
3 ing to bed at night. Not a day should go by that we do not tell others. We are to ...

Declare God's greatness to all nations

4 Psalm 96:3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!
5 To declare something is more emphatic than just explaining it. We are to declare God's glory, not
6 just to our city, not just to our country but among the nations, among all peoples. God's glory
speaks of His attributes, such as His love, His holiness, His mercy. Declare His marvelous works
speaks of the things He does, such as salvation, healing, answers to prayers and miracles.

Application

This is how you prepare to be a witness for Jesus every day. You get up early enough in the morning to spend some quality time reading the Bible and praying. As you do, your eyes and heart is opened to the glory and works of God. Your faith and commitment to Him grows as you worship. You have prepared yourself for the day. As you go throughout the day, everything you do at work is part of your worship, part of serving first and foremost not your boss, but the Lord. You are praying for opportunities to be a witness for Jesus, to tell of his salvation to others. As you pray, God is working, in you, in others and in the situation. God will open the door every day that you prepare yourself, to let your light shine for Him. Not only should you pray for yourself, but you should pray for your church and the missionaries that we support in America and around the world. Expressing praise to God prepares you for the upcoming day.

Worship the only true God

Psalm 96:4 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. The prevailing view today is that there are many religions, all are equally effective ways to reach God. The politically correct view is the only religion that should be opposed is the one that claims to be the only way. But that's exactly what the creator God and His Word in the Bible teach us. We are to worship only the one true God. He alone is to be feared because ...

All other gods are nothing

Psalm 96:5-6 For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. The gods of many nations are worthless idols, they are nothing and can do nothing. Those who worship Allah, Buddha, the Hindu gods, man, the earth and on and on are worshipping worthless idols. Not only do they gain no benefit from this false worship, they will eternally lost if they do not turn and worship the only true God. For of all the possible gods that one may worship, only the Lord created everything. He dwells in majestic splendor in heaven above and nothing can withstand His power.

Continued on the top of Page 6

This Week at Living Word

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service	23	24 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool 10:00am Push Prayer	25 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	26 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool Halloween Party	27	28

October Celebrations



Oct 25 Ashley Meier
Oct 25 Steve Lee



Oct 24 Noah Hostert
Oct 26 Renate DiGrazia

Stewardship Snapshot

October 15th

23 Worshipped, 21 Communed
 5 Watched Live
11 Watched Later
39 Total

Financial Support For October 1st

60.00 Working on Wellness
3,210.00 General Fund Donation
\$3,270.00 Total General Fund Deposit

Financial Support For October 8th

\$875.00 Total General Fund Deposit

Financial Support For October 15th

111.00 Honey Sunday Orders
 100.00 Building Use
1,740.00 General Fund Donation
\$1,951.00 Total General Fund Deposit

Devotional Time

Opportunities to Connect with God

PUSH PRAYER meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to pray for our church, community and world. We welcome requests (call 708-403-9673) or visit our website to send in your prayer request, or join us for 30-40 minutes each week.

RADIO & TV OPPORTUNITIES

- **Worship Anew**—8:00 a.m. Sunday - Comcast channel 184 (TLN) & 8 (SD) , WPWR channel 50, AT&T U-verse channel 1008 (HD) & 8 (SD), Dish Network # 8495; 10:30 a.m. Sunday - DIRECTV channel 377 (TCT)
- **The Lutheran Hour** 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays on 1230 AM; and 9:30 a.m. Sundays on 1580 AM

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *Then Jesus said [to Pilate], "You would have no power over me at all unless it were given to you from above. So the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin."* - John 19:11 (NLT)

As with Pilate and the Jewish leaders, there are selfish, cruel or evil powers in our world, but they have no power to go beyond the boundaries God has put on them. No matter their intentions, the evil they do is only what God, for His own purposes, allows. And we can know that our suffering too will ultimately lead to more glory to God.

PRAYER REQUEST for Pastor John as he has been in the long-term care facility of the Victorian Village. He is still having trouble with the blood clots. Pastor Lee and Elaine visited him last Sunday, he still tires easily, they will keep us posted with weekly updates as to his condition. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as they are very concerned about Pastor John. If you would like to send cards and/or well wishes within the next week or to call him, here is the complete address: John Bucka, C/O Victorian Village, Hope House, Room #17, 12600 Renaissance Circle, Homer Glen, IL 60491. Phone number is 708-578-7091.

PRESCHOOL is growing. Yay! The fifth student started earlier this month, and fitting in nicely. We just received another registration form from a family who's older son came here last year, and now their younger son will be starting in the winter semester for January and then in February, we will have the younger sister of one of our students start when she finally turns three. She already knows the "Good-Bye Song" that they sing everyday, lol. Keep spreading the word about how wonderful Mrs. Diana is with these little ones, all of the families can't stop saying what a great teacher she is. Plus another family has a tour scheduled with Diana later this month.

CHANGE IN SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES are in full swing as we are getting used to the different formats. The first Sunday of every month will be a traditional hymnal worship service and the third Sunday of the month will be an informal outreach service and the remaining Sundays will be the blended service that we currently have. This will be a trial basis for a 6 month period, at which time you will have a chance to express your favorites, suggest minor changes to either service and choose if we do this going forward or use one or the other or go back to the same service styles each week. We will be announcing this on our sign and on our website and Facebook page to see if we can get any visitors or new members.

NEW ADDRESS for Ethel Hamill and her daughter Sharon Bridson. The ladies have moved again, but they are still in Tennessee. Here's their new address: 113 Eagles Nest Drive, Portland, TN 37148.

HONEY SUNDAY ORDERS were sent in earlier this week. We had 11 bottles to order, so watch for them to arrive in your mailbox in the coming weeks.

CALL COMMITTEE has another list of names of pastors from the district. Donna will be talking with Pastor Schauer and then she will be giving the four pastors a call to see when they are available to meet with us to discuss the possibility of receiving a call from us. There is also a meeting scheduled for Saturday, November 4th with our council and call committee and the assistant to President Buss of the district. We will be meeting with Pastor Prohl from Northern Illinois District that day to go over our call process and the potential list of pastors.

COUNCIL MEETING was held on Wednesday evening. Among the topics that were discussed were the financials, preschool, and an update from the call committee. The council meeting notes can be found on page 5 of this newsletter and any other important information from the council meeting will be announced during the announcements after Sunday morning's service.

A LETTER FROM Carolyn Wagenaar, it reads: *"Dear Beverly, I want to thank you so much for the Sunday bulletin and the Portals of Prayer devotional booklet you sent recently. I appreciate it very much and also find enclosed a check for Living Word. I continue to keep Living Word in prayer everyday and also for Diana and the Preschool. Carolyn Wagenaar"*

Mission of the Month



October Mission of the Month Working On Wellness Foundation

Working On Wellness Foundation wants to make it a little easier people with Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, and other conditions by providing chair-based exercise sessions lead by certified instructors. Now these sessions can be accessed through Zoom or via YouTube.

"A New Song"

Psalm 96:1 says: Sing to the Lord a new song...

1) Sing to the Lord a new song about His TREASURES.

"This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut: ² I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. ³ I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name. ⁴ For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me. ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, ⁶ so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

Isaiah 45:1-7

2) Sing to the Lord a new song with God-given TRUST.

Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. ² We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³ We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶ You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷ And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸ The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹ for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

3) Sing to the Lord a new song from God's TRUTH.

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?" ²¹ "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

Matthew 22:15-22



Council Meeting Notes

Living Word Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Notes

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 7 pm

Attendees: Bill M, Paul H, Diana M, Phil H, Ken M, Neal H

The meeting was opened with prayer at 7:04 p.m. by Phil.

We then went into financials. There was not much that had changed except we did have to pay the \$504.99 for the water bill which may have been when we had a leak. We had to pay for the drip pan for the AC unit which was \$675. We did go over our color copies, so we need to continue to be mindful of that. We did get \$1,500 back from Pure Energy as we have now moved to a different company for our electricity. Bill had to sign a 2-year contract but is significantly lower than what we were paying before. Preschool was okay, we did have tuition and a donation and then we did have to move some money from preschool back to the general fund when we had to pay Diana at the end of August. Diana also bought some supplies for preschool for Halloween/Thanksgiving from Oriental Trading. Neal had spoken with his accountant about the employment covid fund that the government was doing. We need to pay the accountant \$2,000 but will be getting back \$30,000 which could take up to 10 months.

Diana made a motion that we pay the accountant. Ken 2nd and the vote was unanimous.

We then moved on to Preschool where Diana said we would get our 6th student in January who will be 3 days a week and our 7th in February for 3 days. We do have a family that would like to tour the classroom but has Covid right now so when they are healthy will come for a tour.

Diana then went into the call committee update. We have 4 new names from the district that we will call and see if they are interested in taking a call at this time. We also have a meeting with Pastor Prohl on Saturday, November 4th at 9:30 to talk with the council and call the committee. We will be asking Pastor Prohl what the district is doing and how to help us get a pastor. We will make sure to provide financials to him to show him we are still a functioning church that is not in debt. We want the district to understand we don't want to close our doors.

Diana did mention for the Mission of the Month that late November into early December would be the angel tree for Orland Township. She did mention our church Christmas tree and maybe looked into a pre-lit tree for the sanctuary. We talked about just doing the Christmas setup during a worship service to have more hands to help us get it set up. Diana also said if we didn't want to collect for a tree, we could just collect donations for the Orland Township Food Pantry for the beginning of November.

Neal thanked everyone for stepping in while he was away. We all understand his health comes 1st and had no problem taking care of things while he was gone.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. with a prayer from Neal.

Back Page

"Sing to the Lord"

Continued from Page 1

All nations must worship Him

Psalm 96:7, 9 Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

All peoples must be told to worship the Lord and give Him glory. All the earth must tremble before Him in feature. The Lord may only be worshipped in holiness, by those who have been forgiven and cleansed from their sins.

Application

As believers, we must be convinced that the Lord we worship is the only true God, the creator of everything. We must communicate the unpopular truth that Jesus is the only way to God. All the other religions are completely false and lead people away from the true God. In today's world, words have become corrupted and many no longer mean what they once meant. The word Christian has lost its biblical meaning of being a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ. Most of the people who claim to be Christian are not according to biblical standards. For a while the word evangelical meant a Christian with a biblical world view. But now heretics who deny the existence of hell, who deny that Jesus is the only way, who deny that those who practice sin such as homosexuality are lost claim the word. A true believer is someone who trusts in Jesus as Savior and Lord and who obeys all of God's Word. The majority of people who claim to be Christian in this country, but are not, are just as lost as the billions following other religions around the world. So, a large part of being a witness for Jesus in St. Louis is convincing people they are not saved, so that they can be saved. Our goal in missions is to create more genuine worshippers of the one true God.



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